

**VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**DUE TO COVID-19 AND STATE PUBLIC GATHERING RESTRICTIONS, JUNE MEETING ONLINE- ZOOM**  
**CONTACT [DURENA.FARR@ID.NACDNET.NET](mailto:DURENA.FARR@ID.NACDNET.NET) FOR MEETING ID # TO JOIN**

South Idaho Shared Stewardship Initiative **JUNE MINUTES**

**THURSDAY JUNE 4, 2020 9:00 A.M. ZOOM**

**Members Online:** Art Troutner, Paul Kleint, John Lillehaug, Ralph Thier

**Members Absent and Excused:** Justin Florence

**Others Online:** Sherry Maupin, Valley County Commission; Lynn Oliver, South Idaho Shared Stewardship Initiative; Trout Unlimited, Gary Brown; Lenard Long Friend of Lake Cascade; Scott Henderson, NRCS; Loretta Strickland, ISWCC and Durena Farr, District Manager

**Meeting was called to order by Art Troutner at 9:03 a.m. Meeting recorded.**

**Action Item:** Ralph Thier moved to approve and sign May 7, 2020 minutes as presented. John Lillehaug seconded and motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Guest Organization updates: Lenard Long from Friends of Lake Cascade provided a power point with lake Cascade pictures and reported on current Lake Cascade conditions. The lake is in good condition, as of June 4<sup>th</sup>. Lake ice off April 23, 2020. Reservoir 99% full. FLC created facebook page, (FriendsOfLakeCascade) responded to waterways ordinance Draft one and Draft two. NFPR erosion project involving Hat Ranch, BLM and Simplot landowners. Lenard Long reported that primary erosion is occurring on BLM land. District advised that 319 funds cannot be used on federal (BLM) projects.

Lynn Oliver, introduced the Shared Stewardship 2018 initiative to reduce wildfire risks and group forest health. 2025 goal is to double number of acres treated. Valley County, Boise and Payette national forests identified as high risk, 3.2 million acres, Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> is the kick-off meeting. Ralph Thier added that key to success for this program is making it public, and well-known, the only way to keep this program going. Newspaper, facebook, press releases, PR videos with NRCS financial and technical assistance to publicize. Valley County PIO also available to help with Shared Stewardship Initiative. Elt Hausbrouck will be representing Valley County at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved for the District to pursue the 319 Federal Application due July 15<sup>th</sup>. Paul seconded and the motion carried. City of Cascade Stormwater improvements, Hat Ranch, West Mtn. Watershed/Valley Co Road Dept., Pine Lakes Ranch are all possible projects to be included on the application.
3. Durena reported on possible interest in 319 and/or EQIP project potential: Pine Lakes Ranch, Fred O'Brien grazing easements. Jim Zokan with groundwork by Paul Kleint.
4. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved to have VSWCD represented at the monthly, third Thursday, Payette National Forest Coalition meetings. Paul Kleint seconded and the motion carried. John and Ralph agreed to share responsibility of meeting attendance.
5. Valley Co., Jeff McFadden has requested a project change for 319 S602 from Poison Creek/Rock Creek section of West Mtn Road to Quenzer Creek live stream culvert replacement and widening, five miles south of Poison Creek. Poison creek would require an AOP 6-8' culvert and the cost is higher than the county can manage without additional partners such as IDFG, Trout Unlimited. IDEQ has been contacted to substitute in Quenzer Creek project. Sherry requested info for Valley County to possibly address Poison Creek project with Mary Rosen, Valley Co. grant writer.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Action Item:** Paul moved to cover travel expenses for IASCD Supervisor meeting. John seconded and motion carried. Ralph will attend the IASCD Supervisor only meeting. 12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m., June 12 in Boise, Hilton Garden Inn, to discuss future of IASCD and pending budget cuts. John Lillehaug will also attend. Loretta asked if conference will occur in 2020, if not perhaps dues could be used to help offset budget cuts. Wyden Legislation put forth for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conservation Corps for our Health and our Jobs Act \$9B (Possible Letter of Support for July Agenda)
2. 319 S554 Final Report Distribution - Star News article in progress by Max Silverson
3. **Action Item:** Waterways Ordinance – June 3<sup>rd</sup> comments for June 8<sup>th</sup> 2:00 public hearing. Art committed to appearing in person. Durena will contact Doug Miller to schedule Art's appearance.

4. Sherry posed questions to Lenard regarding Lake Cascade arms and the ability to enforce 300' no-wake zones. If the zones are too large, creating a narrow channel, boating danger increases in the narrow arms. Sherry requested scientific articles addressing lake health based on data and science. Lenard will email the scientific studies to Sherry Maupin and the District.
5. Durena reported that the NFPR Watershed Summit Planning Committee had been contacted and committee unanimously agreed that due to COVID-19 changes, no date can be established at this time. The District is holding \$3,550 in Summit Sponsorship funds. The Star News published the Summit postponement notice.
4. Payette NF Watershed Coordination teleconference notes were distributed to the Board for review. No board comment at this time.

**NRCS Updates:** Scott Henderson reported he had updates on the Joint Chief's Initiative, other than it is another funding source available once projects are identified. Update on EQIP – Emmett office is ranking 30 applications total. From our District there were six applications. Both Forestry applications have been funded. Shared Stewardship added points to the EQIP application for ranking projects. Within the District there were two high tunnel applications and two flood irrigation applications submitted. Scott reported that an NRCS Civil engineer has finally been hired, Ted Moyer, located in Caldwell, serving all of Division III. Scott does not see NRCS 319 engineering services improving. Still an NRCS engineering deficit, unable to service anything more than the EQIP Farm Bill projects. Emmett Service Center remains in telework phase, one person in the field office, not yet proceeding to Phase I reopening. NRCS Field office reorganization plan has been approved. Scott announced his retirement for July 31, 2020. Erin Morra will be our NRCS local contact.

**FINANCIAL Action Items:**

1. **Action Item:** Paul Kleint moved to accept and file Treasurer's Report for *May 31, 2020* (Bank reconciliations for General account and 319 account; LGIP statement and monthly A/P (Frontier, NPERS, office supplies) Ralph seconded and the motion carried. Included in general account balance is \$3550 in Summit Sponsorships.
2. Durena reminded the Board that any cash contributions to be matched by the State would need to be received by the District by fiscal year-end June 30, 2020.
3. Ralph Thier reminded Board of the ISWCC Budget meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> where Districts can report on unmet funding needs.

**Valley County P & Z:- June 11<sup>th</sup> Hearing at 6 p.m.**

1. PUD 04-02 Gold Fork Bay Village Final Plat Extension Request (CUP expires June 2020)
2. V-1-20 Dellwo Setback Variance – District is submitting letter of comment on stream setback variance concerns, John Lillehaug will compose and District will submit today by noon. John discussed District concerns and questions with Cynda and Durena notified Lori a letter was coming from the District to include in P & Z packets.
3. CUP 20-06 Appel Subdivision – Preliminary and Final Plat
4. CUP 20-07 Valley County Centralized Recycling Site
5. CUP 20-08 RMC Equipment Storage
6. CUP 20-09 BP Property Equipment Storage – West boundary of property is the main Lake Irrigation District Canal, District recommends that BP would need some on-site water retention system to keep run-off from entering irrigation water.

**Date Reminders Recap:**

- *June 11<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m. P & Z Call Doug Miller (208) 382-7100 or Cynda Herrick (208) 382-7115 for verbal testimony (recommended by BPLWQC) Comments by mail no later than June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 p.m.*
- *June 12 IASCD meeting Noon Boise, ID topic – ISWCC and district funding*
- *July 2<sup>th</sup> VSWCD Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. TBD ZOOM/Online or VSWCD office. FY21 Budget discussion. For information to join online meetings contact [Durena.Farr@id.nacdnet.net](mailto:Durena.Farr@id.nacdnet.net) for meeting ID.*

Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Minutes prepared by Durena Farr, District Manager*

DRAFT